United Nations A/C.3/67/SR.38

General Assembly
Sixty-seventh session

Official Records

Distr.: General
29 January 2013

Original: English

Third Committee

Summary record of the 38th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Monday, 8 October 2012, at 10 a.m.

Chair: Mr. Mac-Donald ..... (Suriname)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.30 a.m.

Agenda item 68: Right of peoples to self-determination (*continued*) (A/C.3/67/L.54)

Draft resolution A/C.3/67/L.54: The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination

1. **Mr. Selim** (Egypt), introducing the draft resolution, said that Andorra, Angola, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Cape Verde, Chad, Cuba, Djibouti, Estonia, the Gambia, Guyana, Italy, Lebanon, Mauritania, Montenegro, Peru, Romania, Serbia, Somalia, South Africa, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland had joined the sponsors. The draft resolution contained some technical updates, but was otherwise quite similar to the one on the same topic adopted during the previous session. Respect for and preservation of the territorial unity, contiguity and integrity of all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, was central to the attainment and exercise by the Palestinian people of the right to self-determination, for it was only on such territory that could the Palestinians establish their independent, sovereign and viable State.

2. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Committee), said that Barbados, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria, the Republic of Moldova, San Marino and Slovakia had joined the sponsors.

Agenda item 69: Promotion and protection of human rights (*continued*)

(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms (*continued*) (A/C.3/67/L.33, L.34, L.36, L.37, L.38, L.39, L.41, L.42, L.43, L.44 and L.54)

Draft resolution A/C.3/67/L.33: Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights

3. **Mr. Selim** (Egypt), introducing the draft resolution, said that Azerbaijan, Benin, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Cuba, Djibouti, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Guyana, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Lebanon, Mali, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Somalia and South Sudan had joined the sponsors. The draft resolution contained technical updates and new references, in the preambular section, to the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference, adopted in 2009, the political declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the tenth anniversary of adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action in 2011 and Human Rights Council resolutions 17/4 and 21/5. The draft resolution was an objective attempt to address the relationship between globalization and the realization of all human rights.

4. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Committee), said that Haiti and Mauritania had joined the sponsors.

Draft resolution A/C.3/67/L.34: Human rights in the administration of justice

5. **Ms. Thallinger** (Austria), introducing the draft resolution, said that Brazil, Costa Rica, Iceland, Israel, Lebanon, Paraguay, San Marino, Thailand and Uruguay had joined the sponsors. The draft resolution retained its focus on the situation of persons deprived of their liberty, detention conditions, juvenile justice and children in detention. It referenced the recent entry into force of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the United Nations Principles and Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems.

6. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Committee), said that Côte d'Ivoire, Jordan and Somalia had joined the sponsors.

Draft resolution A/C.3/67/L.36: Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions

7. **Ms. Nilsson** (Sweden), introducing the draft resolution on behalf of the Nordic countries Denmark, Finland, Iceland and Norway and the other sponsors, said that Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Chile, Greece, Honduras, Mexico, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Uruguay had joined the sponsors.

8. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Committee), said that Albania, Georgia, Paraguay and Somalia had joined the sponsors.

Draft resolution A/C.3/67/L.37: Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights

9. **Ms. Astiasarán Arias** (Cuba) introduced the draft resolution on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

10. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Committee), said that Angola, Nigeria, the Russian Federation and Somalia had joined the sponsors.

Draft resolution A/C.3/67/L.38: Human rights and unilateral coercive measures

11. **Ms. Astiasarán Arias** (Cuba), speaking on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, introduced the draft resolution.

12. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Committee), said that Somalia had joined the sponsors.

Draft resolution A/C.3/67/L.39: The right to development

13. **Ms. Astiasarán Arias** (Cuba), introducing the draft resolution on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries said that the draft resolution continued to follow up on the activity of the open ended working group on the right to development of the Human Rights Council. Genuine implementation of the right to development was frequently lacking.

14. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Committee), said that Nigeria, Somalia and South Sudan had joined the sponsors.

Draft resolution A/C.3/67/L.41: Promotion of peace as a vital requirement for the full enjoyment of all human rights by all

15. **Mr. Amoros Nuñez** (Cuba), introducing the draft resolution on behalf of the sponsors, said that the policies of all States should aim to avoid the threat of war and settle disputes peacefully. A world without war was needed to ensure well-being, development and respect for fundamental human rights. Algeria, Brazil, China, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and the Syrian Arab Republic had joined the sponsors.

16. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Committee), said that Ethiopia, Eritrea, Jordan, Madagascar, Namibia, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan and Turkmenistan had joined the sponsors.

Draft resolution A/C.3/6/L.42: The right to food

17. **Ms. Astiasarán Arias** (Cuba), introducing the draft resolution on behalf of the sponsors, said that Algeria, Brazil, China, Ecuador, Grenada, Guatemala, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Monaco, Myanmar, Nigeria, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, the Syrian Arab Republic and Viet Nam had joined the sponsors. While the right to food had been reaffirmed in numerous international instruments, it remained remote for many.

18. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Committee), said that Albania, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Burundi, Cameroon, the Comorros, Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Senegal, Somalia, South Sudan, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda and Zimbabwe had joined the sponsors.

Draft resolution A/C.3/67/L.43: Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order

19. **Ms. Astiasarán Arias** (Cuba), introducing the draft resolution, said that Algeria, Brazil, China, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the Syrian Arab Republic and Viet Nam had joined the sponsors.

20. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Committee), said that Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, India, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Namibia, Somalia and South Sudan had joined the sponsors.

Draft resolution A/C.3/67/L.44: Moratorium on the use of the death penalty

21. **Ms. Curkovic** (Croatia), introducing the draft resolution on behalf of the sponsors, said that Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Kyrgyzstan, Mali, Mongolia, Paraguay and Somalia had joined the sponsors.

Draft resolution A/C.3/67/L.53: International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

22. **Mr. Cabouat** (France), introducing the draft resolution on behalf of the other main sponsors, Argentina and Morocco, and all of the other sponsors, said that Andorra, Armenia, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Haiti, Madagascar, Mauritania, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Serbia and Tunisia had joined the sponsors.

23. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Committee), said that Honduras, Nigeria and Somalia had joined the sponsors.

Agenda item 69: Promotion and protection of human rights (continued)

(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives (*continued*) (A/C.3/67/L.49, L.50, L.51 and L.52)

Draft resolution A/C.3/67/L.49: Situation of human rights in Myanmar

24. **Ms. Rafti** (Cyprus), introducing the draft resolution on behalf of the European Union, said that Albania, Australia, Canada, Israel, Norway and Switzerland had also joined the sponsors.

25. She noted that over the past year, some major steps had been taken by the Government towards political reform to improve the human rights situation in the country and engage with the international community. Productive consultations had been held with the country concerned during the drafting process, and agreement reached on the draft resolution, which reflected both the progress made and issues still to be addressed in Myanmar.

26. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Committee) noted that the draft resolution should be corrected to reflect that Grenada was not a sponsor.

Draft resolution A/C.3/67/L.50: Situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

27. **Ms. Rafti** (Cyprus), introducing the draft resolution, said that the General Assembly had adopted resolutions on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea driven by a shared concern about the grave, widespread and systematic human rights abuses — namely persistent violations of civil, political and economic, social and cultural rights — documented in the reports of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in that country, as well as in the reports of the Secretary-General.

28. The text took into account some positive steps registered during the past year, including limited cooperation with United Nations entities, and improved access for persons with disabilities. Nevertheless, the positive developments were few, and substantive changes on the ground were needed.

29. The sponsors of the resolution had informed the delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea about the draft, but as in previous years, the delegation had refused to engage in discussions. It was hoped that the delegation would respond favourably to the availability of the Secretary-General's good offices to promote dialogue with its Government on ways to strengthen the protection and promotion of human rights in that country.

30. **Mr. Jang** Il Hun (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) said that his delegation categorically rejected the draft resolution, which was the product of politicization, double standards and selectivity vis-à-vis human rights, and aimed to isolate and stifle the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The draft text reflected the manipulation by the Government of the United States of America to distort the human rights situation in his country, and the aim of overthrowing the socialist system there.

31. The human rights violations debated by the Committee, such as discrimination and violence against women and children or freedom of expression and opinion, had no relevance to the reality in his country. His country's human rights situation had been reviewed in the context of the universal periodic review mechanism, in December 2009.

32. The main sponsors of the draft resolution had not apologized or provided compensation in relation to the crimes against humanity that they had committed, and continued to commit, as they participated in armed aggression against sovereign States. They should reflect on the human rights record of their own countries before criticizing others.

33. His Government rejected all other country-specific resolutions which incited confrontation and distrust and would continue to defend and safeguard the socialist system chosen by its people.

Draft resolution A/C.3/67/L.51: Situation of Human Rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

34. **Ms. Rishchynski** (Canada), introducing the draft resolution, said that it had been prepared carefully to ensure accuracy and to reflect the findings of the Secretary-General's report (A/67/327). Concerns about the serious human rights situation in that country, raised in past resolutions, remained unaddressed; the situation thus called for continued international attention.

35. The draft resolution called on Iran to address those concerns and to fully respect its human rights obligations in law and in practice, especially the release of those who had been arbitrarily detained, discrimination against women and other minority groups, and ensuring free, fair and transparent elections in 2013. It had also been called on to cooperate fully with the mandate of the Special Rapporteur and other human rights mechanisms. As the only body responsible for international human rights issues within the General Assembly, the Committee must live up to its responsibilities of holding the Government accountable for its serious human rights violations.

36. **Ms. Vadiati** (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that the draft resolution reflected the short-sighted political interests of a few countries and undermined the United Nations human rights machinery. It was regrettable that Canada and the United States of America consistently committed human rights violations at home and abroad. If Canada was truly concerned about human rights situations, it would end the violence it perpetrated against minority groups in that country.

37. Her delegation believed that the right way to proceed lay in the determination of the countries concerned to work together and create a favourable environment based on common understanding and respect for the promotion of human rights at all levels. The draft resolution was politicized and should thus be rejected.

38. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Committee) said that the draft resolution would be corrected to reflect that Jordan was among its sponsors.

Draft resolution A/C.3/67/L.52: Situation of Human Rights in the Syrian Arab Republic

39. **Mr. Al-Thani** (Qatar) said that Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Botswana, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Poland, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

40. The deteriorating situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic was mainly due to the Government's use of violence against its own people. Tens of thousands, most of them civilians, had lost their lives through the use of heavy weapons, air strikes, massacres, extrajudicial executions and killings — including of human rights defenders and journalists — and torture. That required a swift response by the General Assembly, in light of the level of the grave crimes being committed. The evidence of crimes against humanity had been put forward by several independent reports.

41. The draft resolution called on Syrian authorities to immediately end all crimes and violations against civilians, and to deliver the necessary humanitarian and medical assistance by cooperating with relevant United Nations and international authorities.

42. **Ms. Morgan-Moss** (Panama) said that her country should have been listed among the original sponsors of the draft resolution.

43. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Committee) said that Colombia and Yemen joined the sponsors.

44. **Mr. Adi** (Syrian Arab Republic) said that the draft resolution did not protect rights in his country, but was part of a media and political campaign to end its independence and prevent it from forging ahead with its national agenda. The war being launched against his country within the United Nations undermined Syrian sovereignty and independence and ran counter to the United Nations Charter and international law. The sponsors of the draft resolution, especially Qatar and Saudi Arabia, were not models to follow in the field of human rights.

Agenda item 62: Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions (*continued*) (A/C.3/67/L.31)

Draft resolution A/C.3/67/L.31: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

45. The Chair said that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

46. **Ms. Klemetsdal** (Norway), said that Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Colombia, Madagascar, Micronesia (Federated States of), New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, Spain, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tunisia and Ukraine had joined the sponsors of the draft resolution.

47. The draft resolution reaffirmed key humanitarian principles, and focused on humanitarian response and the work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). It reflected the need for a common commitment to protection and finding solutions to people in need, and addressed key issues such as birth registration, rescue at sea and arbitrary detention.

48. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Committee) said that Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Honduras, Malta, Paraguay, the Philippines, the Republic of Moldova and Uganda had also joined the sponsors of the draft resolution.

49. *Draft resolution A/C.3/67/L.31 was adopted.*

50. **Mr. Mosot** (Kenya) said that, as a nation which continued to host refugees, Kenya had a unique perspective on burden-sharing and helping to improve the lives of refugees. His delegation had presented two proposals during negotiations — one on safety and security in refugee camps, and one on strengthened language for the repatriation of refugees. Unfortunately, those proposals, which had been made in New York, had been rejected because they had not been introduced in Geneva first. While it was welcome that the draft resolution had been dealt with in both the Geneva and New York offices, that two-station process needed further refinement, in order to prevent substance from being sacrificed at the altar of process in the future, and ensure that such matters could be effectively addressed.

Agenda item 69: Promotion and protection of human rights (*continued*)

(a) Implementation of human rights instruments (*continued*) (A/C.3/67/L.26/Rev.1)

Draft resolution A/C.3/67/L.26/Rev.1: Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

51. The Chair said that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

52. **Mr. Gustafik** (Secretary of the Committee) said that Albania, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, Mali, Panama, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, and Ukraine and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia should have been included as sponsors in the revised version of the draft resolution.

53. **Ms. Kofoed** (Denmark) said that Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Israel, Madagascar, Montenegro, Nicaragua, Niger, Paraguay, Peru, the Republic of Korea, Sierra Leone, Timor-Leste and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) had joined the sponsors of the draft resolution. Article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights stated that no one should be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; nevertheless, there were continued reports of torture in all parts of the world. She therefore hoped that the draft resolution, which was the result of open-ended consultations with delegations and a number of bilateral meetings, would be adopted by consensus.

54. *Draft resolution A/C.3/67/L.26/Rev.1 was adopted.*

55. **Ms. Zografska-Krsteska** (former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia), speaking on a point of order, with reference to the request by the representative of Egypt to reflect the official title and name of her country as a co-sponsor to resolution A/C.3/67/L.54, said that Security Council resolution 817 (1993) stated that her country would be provisionally referred to within the United Nations as "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" pending settlement of the difference that had arisen over the State name. Nevertheless, she wished to clarify that her country's official name, under its Constitution and also confirmed by a judgment of the International Court of Justice in December 2011, was "the Republic of Macedonia".

56. **Mr. Iakovidis** (Greece) reminded the Committee that "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" was the proper name of that country for all purposes within the United Nations, in accordance with Security Council resolution 817 and General Assembly resolution 225 (1993).

The meeting rose at 12.10 p.m.